

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, DC

FSIS NOTICE

15-03

5/16/03

Products Shipped to Puerto Rico

This notice clarifies that USDA inspected meat or poultry products shipped to and from Puerto Rico are in domestic commerce and, therefore, require no special certification.

The meat and poultry products regulations (9 CFR 331.2 and 381.221) designated Puerto Rico in 1971 as requiring Federal inspection.

The Agency is aware that some inspection program personnel are completing an export certification form, FSIS Form 9061-1, "Poultry Inspection Certificate," to accompany poultry product shipments destined for Puerto Rico. FSIS Form 9061-1 is a numbered, controlled form and carries the USDA inspection legend. This form is only to be completed upon request at poultry slaughter establishments and provided to establishment management as proof that the numbers of birds condemned in a specific lot were in fact condemned by FSIS.

However, in some cases inspection program personnel are issuing and signing the forms at a cold storage warehouse to reflect the products and quantities being shipped to Puerto Rico. This is not required and is an inappropriate use of an official form.

Inspection program personnel are to treat product shipped to Puerto Rico as any other domestic product. Inspection program personnel are not to complete additional forms or conduct any special inspections for these products.

/s/ Philip S. Derfler

Deputy Administrator
Office Policy and Program Development

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